DRAFT Data Assessment Team (DAT) Conference Call Notes
02/26/2015 at 11:00 a.m.

Participants: Barb Byrne(NMFS), Lauren Damon and Geir Aasen (DFW), Rhiannon Mulligan, Loi Tran, and Farida Islam (DWR), Owen Lu (MWD), Leigh Bartoo, Jon Speegle and Craig Anderson(FWS), Lucinda Shih(CCWD), John Gerlach (SWRCB).

Preliminary Rotary Screw Trap (RST) Report				
Species*	**FWS Red Bluff Diversion Dam RST (Estimated Passage)**	**Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District (GCID) RST (Catch)**	**DFW Tisdale Weir RST (Catch)**	**DFW Knights Landing RST (Catch)**
Date	**02/12/2015-02/25/2015**	**2/19/2015-2/25/2015**	**02/19/2015-02/23/2015**	**02/19/2015-2/23/2015**
CHNF	93,239	41	40	20
CHNLF	77	1	0	0
CHNW	1,461	17	2	2
CHNS	453	3		3
Ad-Clipped CHN	Not Reported	169	4	8
SH	168		0	0
Ad-Clipped SH	Not Reported	1	0	1
GST	Not Reported		Not Reported	Not Reported
*Chinook race based on length (Frank Fisher model); CHNF=Fall run, CHNLF=Late-fall run, CHNW=Winter run, CHNS= Spring run, SH = Steelhead, GST= Green Sturgeon. Species are unmarked unless noted as adipose-fin clipped (ad-clipped). Data subject to revision.				

At RBDD, a decrease in Fall run and Late Fall run; significant increase in spring run as expected during this time of the season. We are also observing lots of natural Steelhead.

GCID cones were lowered on Feb 17, 2015. Trap operations will continue until further notice.

At GCID, we are observing lots of tagged and clipped Chinook .

At Tisdale and Kinights Landingathe catch is lower for Fall run Chinook compared to last reporting period .

Sacramento River Fish Monitoring

Graphical summaries of the monitoring data collected at the Sacramento River and at other locations can be found at http://www.water.ca.gov/swp/operationscontrol/calfed/calfedmonitoring.cfm. In addition, the

biweekly passage reports of juvenile salmonids sampled at the Red Bluff Diversion Dam are available at http://www.fws.gov/redbluff/rbdd_jsmp.html

Delta Fish Monitoring

Jon Speegle(FWS) has reported the following:

Preliminary FWS Trawl and Seine Catch Report from 02/15/2015-02/21/2015				
Species*	**Beach Seines**	**Mossdale Trawl****	**Sacramento Trawl**	**Chipps Island Trawl**
CHNF	206		21	2
CHNLF				2
CHNW	1		1	5
CHNS	9			3
Ad-Clipped CHN			14	49
SH	1			3
Ad-Clipped SH	1		3	45
DSM				1 (67mm, no expression)
LFS				19 (57-106mm,1 with egg, 1 with milt)
SPLT				22
*Chinook race based on length (Frank Fisher model); CHNF=Fall run, CHNLF=Late-fall run, CHNW=Winter run, CHNS= Spring run, SH = Steelhead, DSM=Delta Smelt, LFS=Longfin Smelt, SPLT = Splittail. Species are unmarked unless noted as adipose-fin clipped (ad-clipped). Data subject to revision.				

Jersey/Prisoner's Pt. Trawls:
307 CHNF, 1 CHNW, 5 CHNT, 10 RBTC, 1 LFS (79 mm), & 15 DSM (61-70 mm, 1 w/egg, 1 w/milt)
** no species of management concern

Information about the Delta fish monitoring data from FWS can be found at http://www.fws.gov/stockton/jfmp/.

Salvage Monitoring

Preliminary DFW Salvage Report for Salmonids from 02/17/2015-02/22/2015								
	Central Valley Project (CVP)				State Water Project (SWP)			
Species	Adipose-Fin Clipped (Ad-Clipped)		Non-Adipose Fin Clipped (Non-Clipped)		Adipose-Fin Clipped (Ad-Clipped)		Non-Adipose Fin Clipped (Non-Clipped)	
	Salvage	Loss	Salvage	Loss	Salvage	Loss	Salvage	Loss
CHNF			12	9				
Total to Date			12	9	41	180		
CHNLF								
Total to Date	72	55			64	285	6	26
CHNW								
Total to Date	16	11	36	31	36	159	16	71
CHNS								
Total to Date								
CHNU								
Total to Date								
SH	36				92		8	
Total to Date	40				146		16	

Notes:

-Chinook race based on length (Delta model); CHNF=Fall run, CHNLF=Late-fall run, CHNW=Winter run, CHNS=Spring run, CHNU= Unknown race (Chinook greater than the length-at-date criteria or fork length not measured), SH =Steelhead.
-Salvage and loss estimates are rounded to the nearest whole fish.
-Documentation on how to calculate salvage and Chinook loss can be found at ftp://ftp.delta.dfg.ca.gov/salvage/Salmon%20Loss%20Estimation/.
-Steelhead loss: SWP steelhead loss = salvage × 4.33 and CVP steelhead loss = salvage × 0.68.
-Total to date is the total since 10/1/13 (the start of water year 2014).
-Data subject to revision.

Preliminary DFW Salvage Report for Smelt and Other Species from 02/17/29/2015-02/22/2015				
	CVP		SWP	
Species	Salvage	Total to Date	Salvage	Total to Date
DSM	12	64		4
LFS				
SPLT		12	8	613
GST				
WST				

Notes:
-DSM=Delta Smelt, LFS=Longfin Smelt, SPLT=Splittail, GST=Green Sturgeon, WST=White Sturgeon.
-Salvage estimates are rounded to the nearest whole fish.
-Total to date is the total since 10/1/13 (the start of water year 2014).
-Data subject to revision.

Smelt Monitoring

Lauren Damon(DFW) provided the following update:

Smelt Larva Survey #4 was in the field February 17- 19. Processing is ongoing. A total of 38 Longfin Smelt ranging in size from 5 to 9 mm have been reported from samples that have been processed so far. No Delta smelt was salvaged. Larvae were detected in low numbers in the central and southern Delta, and also in the Sacramento River system. Stations downstream of the confluence have not been processed yet. No young-of-the-year Delta Smelt have been observed in the samples processed so far. SLS #5 starts March 2.
Spring Kodiak Survey #2 was in the field February-12. Results indicate a total of 72 adult Delta Smelt were caught, 10 from station 809 (near Jersey Pt., one ripe female and others in pre-spawn condition), one from station 902 (Old R. south of Franks Tract), with the remaining catch at stations in the Sacramento River system and downstream. SKT #3 is in the field March 9.

Smelt Larva survey #2 begins on March 2, 2015.

Spring Kodiak Trawl #3 will be inthe field on March 9, 2015.

20 mm Survey #1 begins March 16.

Data are posted on:

http://www.dfg.ca.gov/delta/projects.asp?ProjectID=20mm.

Smelt Working Group

Leigh Bartoo(FWS) provided the following update:

The Working Group described the risk of entrainment under the Service-provided advice framework. Under this framework the relative risk of entrainment for each of the three OMR flow ranges is discussed and assessed. Eventhough the members could not agreed 100%, majority have agreed that for the current week the risk of entrainment for each of flow ranges is characterized as follows:

- -1250 to -2000 cfs has a low risk of entrainment,
- -2000 to -3500 cfs has a medium risk of entrainment
  Increased from low risk of entrainment to medium risk of entrainment, and
- -3500 to -5000 cfs has a high risk of entrainment.
  Increased from medium risk of entrainment to high risk of entrainment

These flow ranges have the potential for a higher level of relative risk, if and when increased central Delta turbidity connects with the export facilities. These relative risk levels are based upon a review of Delta Smelt relative abundance and distribution data, Delta Smelt salvage data, and Delta conditions data, including turbidity. The Working Group is following guidance for entrainment protections from both Action 2 (adult Delta Smelt) and Action 3 (juvenile Delta Smelt). The risk values provided for this week refer only to adult fish as there is currently no evidence of hatching.

The Working Group will continue to monitor Delta Smelt survey and salvage data and Delta

conditions and will meet again Monday, March 2, 2015 at 10 am.

The Smelt Working Group notes and FWS determinations are posted at http://www.fws.gov/sfbaydelta/cvp-swp/smelt_working_group.cfm.

Delta Operations for Salmonids and Sturgeon (DOSS) Working Group

Barb Byrne(NMFS) provided the following update:

DOSS met on Tuesday.
No Advice to WOMT or NMFS.
DCC gates are closed according to NMFS and D1641. Daily operations are on a day-to-day basis. The 14-day average has not been more negative than -5000 which is allowed according to NMFS.

Fish Monitoring update:
Winter run chinook 95% in the delta
Hatchery Winter run and acoustic tagged 40-60% in the delta (the fish showed up fast and this estimate accounts for mortality upstream of the delta), 25-35% reached recievers at Sacramento.
Young-of-year spring run Chinook 80-95% in the delta
Yearling Spring Run 75% in the delta and the remainder in the Ocean.
Hatchery Steelhead 80% in the delta
San Joaquin River Steelhead 20% in the delta

The largest fish increase at Chipps Island is clipped Steelhead.

DOSS assessed the current risk of entrainment for YOY winter-run Chinook salmon. For both naturally-produced and hatchery-produced YOY winter-run in the Delta, the current risk of entrainment for each OMR flow ranges was characterized as follows:

- -1,200 to -2,000 cfs has a medium risk of entrainment
- -2,000 to -3,500 cfs has a medium to high risk of entrainment
- -3,500 to -5,000 cfs has a high risk of entrainment
- > -5,000 cfs has a higher risk of entrainment

The assessments are based on OMR levels, recent salvage of salmonids, and the low trigger threshold.

DOSS notes and related documents are posted at http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/central_valley/water_operations/doss.html.

Operations

Preliminary Summary for 2/26/2015			
SWP		**CVP**	
Clifton Court Inflow (cfs)	4,050**	Jones Pumping Plant (cfs)	850*
SWP San Luis Reservoir Share (TAF) as of Midnight	1,281	CVP San Luis Reservoir Share (TAF) as of Midnight	444
San Luis Reservoir Total (TAF) as of Midnight	1,745	American – Nimbus Reservoir Releases (cfs)	800
Feather – Oroville Reservoir Releases (cfs)	950	Sacramento – Keswick Reservoir Releases (cfs)	3,250
		Stanislaus – Goodwin Reservoir Releases (cfs)	250
DELTA OPERATIONS			
Outflow (cfs)	~7,600	Delta Cross Channel (DCC) Gates	Closed
Total Delta Inflow (cfs)	~13,451 cfs	OMR (cfs)	-8435
X2 (km)	= 72	5-day average (cfs)	-4020
Export/Inflow (%)	19.7%(14-day avg)	14-day OMR (cfs)	-4752

*Jones Pumping plant is adding a unit on Monday(3/2), going up to 1800 cfs.
**Clifton Court plans to drop on Monday(3/2) to 800 cfs.

Farida Islam(DWR) has mentioned that Loi Tran(DWR-OCO) sent a response(below) to RG Fernando(MWD)'s inquire regarding OMR target being -5000. The response was shared with DAT members via the DAT reflector.

Response from Loi Tran:

During this period of higher Delta inflows, the projects requested the fish agencies the ability to flex the OMR level to higher than the -5000. The project and fishery agency directors have been evaluating fish distribution and turbidity conditions on a daily basis. We had a number of days at higher than -5000, but turbidity has recently become a concern and so the decision was to be at -4500 for a couple of days. This is an attempt at preventing the spawning of adult delta smelt near the pumps, which could cause concern with take of juvenile and larval delta smelt later in the spring.

A summary of daily operations can also be viewed at http://www.water.ca.gov/swp/operationscontrol/docs/delta/deltaops.pdf.

Next Conference Call: Next DAT conference call will be on March 5, 2015.